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November 22, 1960

Mr. Norman Campbell, president
Fairwood Homes Association
8102 East 91st Street Terrace
Kansas City 38, Missouri

Dear Mr. Campbell:

In talking to Lucien Kemper and his brother recently, I found they had in their possession an old history of Washington Township in which the Kemper farm is located and in which Fairwood now stands.* I found this early history very interesting and I have had the manuscript copied and am sending one copy to you with the thought that you might like to retain it for the files of the Homes Association and that some day the home owners in Fairwood might be interested in knowing more about the early history of the ground.

Sincerely yours,

ONG AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

William A. Ong
President

WAO:haf
Enc.

* Only the west half of the Fairwood addition was a part of the Kemper farm; the east half including all of the houses on both sides of Manchester was never a part of the Kemper land - It was first developed by Thomas Isaac Hickman in 1849 - He died 1866 - Greenberry Ragan owned it from 1901 until his death in 1949.

Mrs Greenberry Ragan

A SHORT HISTORY

of

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

OCTOBER 11, 1945

COPY

INTRODUCTION

A brief survey of Washington Township, Jackson County, Missouri, in an attempt to cover its organization, pioneer settlers, early settlements, churches and schools. The Committee acknowledges the following sources from which it has drawn material: Early History of Jackson County, Vital Statistics and individuals who have had information from eye witnesses to matter recorded here.

The committee is quite conscious of the fact that it may have failed to include some families or places rightfully entitled to mention. For this, if so, it is deeply penitent and suggest another committee may well be appointed to supplement this report at a later date.

Respectfully submitted
Committee

Mrs. Susie Palmer
W. H. Johnson
Charles T. Kemper, Chairman

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THE ORGANIZATION

Washington Township was organized in early 1836, a mere decade following the organization of Jackson County. The election was held at a place not identified by present day location. The West and South boundaries were as present but the North boundary was a line beginning approximately at 82nd St. & State Line Dodson and running directly East covering considerable territory afterward yielded to Brooking Township at the time of its organization. The East boundary extended far into what now is Prairie Township, Southern boundary Cass Co..

Early records show that a broad strip along but within the Township was known as the "Lost Township". This title seems to have been acquired through the medium of a survey--or sent to establish needed boundary lines. Said surveyor (not identified by name), reported he lost his notes "and anyway the tract was worthless being only prairie land".

This view was readily accepted by others for they were immigrants mainly from the forest covered States of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia and who believed only timber soil was fertile. Succeeding years proved only too clearly how the fertility of this treeless tract had been misjudged. However there is another account for the name "Lost Colony" more plausible and equally well authenticated. That report runs as follows:

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The surveyor (the same as before and still unidentified) was running his lines from far East near the head of Sni. A Hardshell Baptist had a still operating near the head of this famous stream and whether the aroma was sufficiently strong to deflect the tripod of his instrument is not known but the whiff of the juice was unquestionably strong enough to sway the surveyor toward its source. The proverbial hospitality of early day hosts coupled with the equally convivial appetite of the guests made a perfect combination and ere long the worry over a few townships of land had so far wandered from the mind of said surveyor that he not only lost his notes but also his hat. At this juncture a gaunt and hungry sow either in resentment of the white man invading her domain, as punishment for his inebriation, or for pure hog-deviltry with not a very discriminating appetite ate both notes and hat.

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ALL LAND ENTRIES

Land Office at Boonville, Missouri

Hickman Mills (Town Site) 1-47-33 entered by Randel Allen 1845.

Mill established by Edward Hickman 1854.

Post Office established 11-11-1868 (James B. Robinson, Postmaster.)

New Santa Fe Post Office established 5-15-1867. First Post Master was Nelson H. Fitzwater.

Watts Mill established 1832--entered by George Fitzhugh--1935. There were 3 Fitzbaugh brothers who entered several tracts of land in vicinity.

New Santa Fe Town Site entered by Dabney Lipscomb 12-8-1845.

Store built by James Bridger and George W. Kemper, and kept by Jack Smith and burned by Kansas soldiers together with all records of First Masonic Lodge in Jackson County now known.

Jim Bridger farm entered by John Cummins--1944. ½ mile South of Dallas.

Klapmeyer Farm ½ mi. South of New Santa Fe entered by Anthony Davis 1845.

Morgan Boone Farm 94th & Holmes Street entered by Morgan Boone 1949. There is an old log house still standing on this place built by a nephew of Daniel Morgan Boone about 1826 and is probably the oldest building now standing in Jackson County.

John A. Whitsett entered land (1½ miles north of Hickman Mills) 1841, evidently buying many other lands around later.

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James M. Bryant entered a part of section coming up to Hickman Mills on the northwest in 1850.

Zion Flannery entered section 1844 about six miles northeast of Hickman Mills and was considered one of the earliest settlers. He as well as others such as Boone, Basquez, Bridges, Muir and others lived on their lands as squatters many years before it was opened for settlement by the government. The old Flannery log house is still standing one-half mile north of Besonia Church and used by one of his descendants, Lon Ervin who owns the farm. This house must have been built in the year 1830, before 1835.

William Muir entered land 4½ miles northeast of Hickman Mills in 1844. On this was the forgotten Townsite of Union Point and site of Baerea Christian Church.

E. A. Hickman bought land south of Hickman Mills which was entered by Sidney Barnes 1845. Mr. Hickman for whom the town was named built and operated the old mill here. Mill was built 1854.

B. F. Ervin farm 3½ miles northeast of Hickman Mills was entered by - part by Phineas Horton, October 1855 and Jesse Noland, February 20, 1854.

A. S. Truman came to Jackson County 1846. Lived here until 1853 when he moved to Platte County, returning to Washington Township in 1866 to his farm one-half mile east and north of Holmes Park. He was a farmer and grandfather of Harry S. Truman. A S Truman did not own this land it belonged to Mrs Trumans uncle, Mr Holmes.

Solomon Young came to Jackson County 1841 and settled some 2½ miles southeast of Grandview, later moving one mile north of Grandview.

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In 1854 he started to California with 1500 cattle, arriving in 1855, losing five hundred on the way. He returned to Washington Township and was an extensive farmer and stock raiser. He was also a grandfather of Harry S. Truman.

U. R. (Rial) Holmes, an extensive farmer and stockman 1½ miles west of Hickman Mills, went with Solomon Young with his cattle to the west where he remained. Later as a scout for the Army in fighting the Indians returning to his farm and died some three years past at age of ninety-three.

Wiley Wyatt came to Jackson County in 1849, a prominent farmer and stock grower, two miles southwest of Grandview.

Isaac Bryant came from Kentucky about 1847 and settled about three miles southwest of Hickman Mills. He was postmaster at High Blue, probably the first in the township. He later went to Hickman Mills and with his son Joe Bryant ran a blacksmith shop many years. He was probably the first Justice of the Peace and was to his death.

Shadrack Sechrest, another old-time blacksmith, came from Kentucky in early days and some will remember he was a very small man. He left Hickman Mills some fifty years past and went to Tonganoxie, Kansas, where some of his family remain.

Benjamin Robinson came from Kentucky about 1847 and lived one-half mile west of Hickman Mills many years. His son, James Robinson, was the first postmaster at Hickman Mills. Uncle Ben was a great church man.

Just east of Hickman Mills, the west one-half section 1-47-33 and whole

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of section 6-47-33 was bought by C. P. B. Jeffereys as well as many other surrounding lands from various parties. December 16, 1859 this deed was notarized by C. R. Montague of St. Louis County, Missouri. Mr. Jefferys gave his citizenship as of the United States and at that time residing in Liege, Belgium, Europe. On the two pieces of land described above were built two large residences, each containing fifteen or sixteen rooms. In these houses was established under General Ewing's Order No. 11, Post No. 1, where all residents in a certain area were concentrated during the Civil War. Mr. Jeffery evidently imported labor to build these houses and there were some twelve or fifteen miles of stone fences around and across the two or three thousand acres of land he accumulated. All this stone had to be quarried and hauled for miles and built in these fences. There were few farmers and laborers and few negro slaves, so who did all of this work? There were about seventeen miles of stone fence between Grandview and Bannister Road and a very few short parts of them are left. Mr. Jefferys was considered a very wealthy man, and finally made his home in Philadelphia. His son Harry Jefferys came here some thirty-five or forty years past and sold all of his various farms. Mr. Jefferys was a short heavy man, black hair and eyes, mustache and a small "goatee". He was a very exuberant man and always kissed his old friends when he visited them here (regardless of man or woman). The two residences built by Mr. Jeffreys were named Blythesdale and Hawthorn. There were thirty-two families lived in these two homes during the Civil War after Order No. 11. There was a school for the

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children taught by some of the ladies and a Sunday School, I suppose taught by Mr. Palmer as he was a great Sunday School organizer. There was a company of federal soldiers stationed here nearly all the time.

Not A Ghost Town But The Forgotten Townsite Of Union Point

William Muir (who was called Uncle Buck) entered NW¼ of Section 29-48-32, February 29, 1844. When he built his home directly north across Bannister Road from the present Union Point School, the adjoining section on the south was entered and owned by Alexander Chiles. Some time later Mr. Muir and Mr. Chiles platted and had recorded in Independence, Missouri, the Townsite of Union Point. Mr. Muir gave twenty acres on the north side of Bannister Road and Mr. Chiles ten acres on the south side making the townsite thirty acres. On the plat it shows The Bannister Road as Main Street. North of Main Street was Kansas Street and north of that was High Street. On the east side streets running north and south were the present County Road; next at west was Independence Street, then Watter Street (named for some man or misspelled) and next street west of that was Academy Street. On 16th day of January 1855 Wm. Muir and Alex Chiles, as trustees for the Town of Union Point, sold to the trustees of School District No. 3 in Township 48, Range 32, lots No. 1 and No. 4 for the sum of one dollar.

We have a copy of deed which was recorded January 1855 in Book W, Page 438, signed by Alex Chiles and William Muir, Samuel Lucas County Clerk, John H. Taylor, Deputy Clerk. There being a Board of Trustees,

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it seems only of Mr. Muir and Mr. Chiles or there would have been other names to the transaction. These lots were sold not given to the school trustees. There is no record of the abandonment of the townsite but evidently Mr. Chiles took back his ten acres and Mr. Muir his twenty acres. This was evidently a disappointment to all the early settlers as Union Point had prospects of being a little town. Mr. Muir built his home. The school was built. A blacksmith shop was on the northeast across the road. On evenings and holidays it was a gathering place for men and boys; when they had horse races, foot races, wrestling, shooting matches, etc.. There was no Post Office but possibly the mail carrier from Independence to Hickman Mills and Santa Fe may have left some mail for those who were there. (This is presumption only.) Later mail for Santa Fe went out from Westport.

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The first doctor we have any record was Dr. Lee who lived northeast of Hickmans Mill a short distance, we cannot learn just where. Later there were three in the Township, Dr. Watson also Dr. David A. Bryant who came to Jackson County in 1848 and practiced medicine in Independence. In 1850 he moved to Brunswick, Missouri, and practiced returning to Independence in 1851. In 1852 removed to Lee's Summit, and then to Hickman Mills. In 1864 went to Carson City, Nevada; in 1868 returned to Hickman Mills where he practiced his profession until his death. Dr. Watson married a Lipscomb.

Dr. Spruill came to Washington Township from Alabama in 1870 to a farm one mile east and ½ mile south of old Watts Mill now Dallas where he lived and practiced medicine until his death.

B. F. Ervin was born three miles northeast of Independence, in 1841 where he spent his entire life except while in Confederate Army four years. He was in all of the major battles in the south, and a great church man and one of the best men and neighbors of Washington Township. He was the father of Joseph A. Ervin.

James H. Kemper came to Missouri from Kentucky in 1847 and made his home three and one-half miles northeast of Hickmans Mills where he remained until his death.

Stephen C. Ragan came to Jackson County 1837. In 1859 he went to Texas, returning to Washington Township in 1866 where he farmed extensively. He served as a captain in Confederate Army in Texas and later as a representative in the Missouri Legislature. He was one of the graduates and later a teacher of the Highland Academy. He was the father of Greenbury and Dr. R. C. Ragan.

COPY

Daniel Morgan Boone

Daniel Morgan Boone was born December 23, 1769 in Kentucky and died in Jackson County, Missouri, July 13, 1839, aged 71 years. He was married in 1800 to Sarah Lewis. He was Captain of Missouri Rangers 1814 and Colonel of Militia in the Indian Wars, also a surveyor. He looked more like his father, Daniel Boone that any of his children.

The children of Daniel Morgan Boone were:

John	born in	1806	
Nathan	"	" 1808	
Daniel	"	" 1809	
Lindsey	"	" 1811	
Edward	"	" 1813	
Elizabeth	"	" 1815	married Jessie White
Alonza	"	" 1817	
James	"	" 1819	
Milton	"	" 1820	
Morgan	"	" 1824	died 1852
Nepoleon	"	" 1828	died unmarried

Daniel Morgan Boone came to Missouri in 1795 and is supposed to be the first white man to set foot in Jackson County. He afterward in 1799 went back to Kentucky and brought settlers to Missouri. He and his brother-in-law, Boone Hays, settled south of Westport, or was a squatter there (I suppose) before we had a State or County. Boone Hays was father of Colonel Upton Hays. Daniel Morgan Boone was buried on north side of 63rd St. and about Woodland Ave. in Kansas City, Mo.

The old Boone Log Cabin is still standing at 92nd and Holmes St. in rear of Morgan Boone Home.

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James Harvey Kemper, born 1804 in Garrard County, Kentucky, came with his family to Jackson County, Missouri, 1847 and settled three miles northeast of Hickman Mills where he lived until his death. He was a farmer and a preacher and took a great interest in all neighborhood affairs. He had a few negro slaves and although a preacher, ran a small distillery as many other farmers of those days. He was a successful farmer until the Civil War came on and the Kansas Soldiers (Red Legs) took his slaves and stole all of his stock and took them to Lawrence, Kansas and burned all fences. Eight hundred bushels of wheat and tenant houses. Also forty barrels of whiskey hidden in corn shocks and reported by the slaves. After the war was over he sold a part of his farm to rebuild and restock. He was a fair speaker and preacher, well liked and commonly called Uncle Harvey.

John Henry Kemper, a son of James Harvey Kemper came with his father from Kentucky when he was four years old and grew up on the farm until he was sixteen years old when he drove a six yoke of oxen team for the Freightors, Majors and Waddell, to Salt Lake City. He walked all the way there and walked back as did all the other men (there were forty wagons in the train.) After his return in order to escape the Kansas Soldiers he was forced to join Colonel Upton Hays and the Confederacy. He was riding by the side of Colonel Hays when he was killed near Drexel, Missouri. Colonel Hays' command then joined General Shelby and he, Kemper, was one of General Shelby's personal guards until Shelby went to Mexico. Kemper had three horses shot under him but was never wounded himself. After returning from the war he resumed farming and spent his life on the farm where he was raised.

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He married Emma Hedges who was raised one mile south of Hickmans Mills. He always took a great interest in schools and politics. He served seventeen years as a deputy county assessor in both Democrat and Republican administrations although a strong Democrat himself. He had three sons, Charles T., Emmett and Lucien.

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SANTA FE TRAIL

The Original Santa Fe Trail entered Washington Township at 87th Street and Blue Ridge Boulevard, ran in a southwesterly direction crossing Hart Grove Creek one-half mile south of Holmes Park and still southwest into the Big Blue Bottom at the Old Brick Indian Trading Post exactly where Bryson Smith's house now stands, and crossing the Big Blue at a ford where later the Old Red Bridge was built. The trail then ran south just where the Missouri Pacific tracks are now, for ¼ mile to where the Red Bridge Road crosses the railway; then the trail bears southwest through a pasture where it can be very easily seen. The Trail can be easily followed from here to Santa Fe by the County Road and all across the township farms by any one familiar with the roads and farms. This Trail was first made in 1821 and is unquestionably the original. This was the line of least resistance, there being no high hills or bluffs to get to the Blue Bottoms, a good rocky ford and good prairie grazing lands for the oxen and large springs of good water at the camping grounds.

The Old Red Bridge was built at the ford (one-fourth mile north of the present Red Bridge) in 1861 by a Canadian named Todd and his son, George Todd, who later joined Quantrell and became one of his lieutenants. He was shot at the Battle of Independence, and is buried in Independence in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

The Old Red Bridge is of hand hewed timbers mortised and pinned together with wooden pins, weather-boarded and shingled and painted

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"red". This gave it the name.

The Santa Fe Trail entered Washington Township where Blue Ridge Boulevard and 87th Street goes now and from there southwest through Holmes Park to Red Bridge and thence to New Santa Fe. At Red Bridge just where Bryson Smith's residence now is, was an old brick "Trading Post" where the Indians traded in early days. The early travellers crossed the Big Blue at a ford just where the original Red Bridge stood (the piers are still standing one-fourth mile north of the present Red Bridge.) The original Red Bridge was a covered wooden bridge built about 1859 and 1860 by a Canadian named Todd and his son George Todd, a guerilla leader under Quantrill and was killed at the Battle of Independence near October 22, 1864. The old bridge was painted red, hence its name of Red Bridge. Every one knows the importance of the Santa Fe Trail to Washington Township in its early days; doubtless we owe our first homesteads and settlements to it.

This Old Trail has its legend of buried treasure etc.; even now you can see where many places have been dug by "doodle bug" prospectors, to one familiar with them. There are many graves along this Trail marked with a couple of stones; all of those people going west and unknown, many had died in the cholera epidemic of 1849. Just a few years past, while laying a water line just one-fourth mile north of Bannister Road and one-fourth mile west of Blue Ridge Boulevard, the workmen uncovered a small cannon by the roadside along the Old Trail, and a few years previous, a man, while digging a post hole, found a cache of cannon balls one-fourth mile further west.

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There was another branch of the Old Trail on the north side of the Floral Hills Cemetery and crossing the Big Blue in Swope Park and thence west by Alexander Majors (about 72nd and Vine Street) into Kansas. This was because of the steep grades and muddy crossing of the Big Blue only used by the Mexicans and their mule pack trains; it was a few miles shorter than the wagon route.

The long ridge running from the east into Swope Park is still called the Santa Fe ridge by old timers; yet the City Park Board has given it some fancy name like Sylvan Lane.

We are proud to add that Washington Township and particularly Hickmans Mills and vicinity has the first consolidated school in the state and the second Rural Free Mail route in the United States. Its every modern conveniences, telephones, electricity, water lines, good roads, churches and schools with its high class of citizens, make it one of the most desirable places in which to live.

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THE CHURCHES

The spirit of religious worship that has ever characterized the pioneers of America was in no way lacking among the earlier settlers of this area now under consideration. As these hardy forefathers, venturesome and courageous, wended their way mainly from the south, they carried with them not only their religion but also their very definite creeds. As a very early expression of this desire to acknowledge their gratitude toward and reliance on a Supreme Being, they began gathering in one anothers' homes, later in school buildings, until the congregations were sufficiently large to enable them to erect churches.

The denominations listed in this early period were Baptist, Christian and Presbyterian bodies and the latter were rather difficult to locate.

Some forty charter members organized a church in southern Jackson County in 1856 and called it the High Grove Presbyterian Church. There is reason to believe this organization was at or near the location of the former High Grove schoolhouse. The building was burned by Federal Troops in 1861. The church was never rebuilt and no mention is found of what became of the dispersed membership. Likewise the names of the members were not recognized by the committee.

Equally unfortunate was the loss of the records of a Baptist church near the Rockford schoolhouse, organized in 1842. This building was also burned by Federal Troops in 1861 and no records except a Bible were saved. The church body did not survive the destruction

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of their house. The list of members was one Colgan, an ancestor of Maurray Colgan, one of their members.

In almost the immediate community The Blue Ridge Baptist Church was organized in 1848. The site has now been changed to Grandview, and regular services are maintained. The church has had a long and prosperous career and embraced in its membership are very many of the leading Baptist in the township. A cemetery at the old site is the last resting place of not a few of the very early settlers of this part of the country.

The Besonia Baptist Church, though not formally organized sufficiently early to be classed among the pioneers, has a rightful claim to passing notice for being in a community predominately Baptist as early as 1835. This early date found itinerate ministers of that faith holding services at the homes of Flanery's, of which there were several families, as they passed to and fro through the community. The said Flanerys and descendants made up a large portion of the Besonia Church.

Two of these ministers were James Robinson, commonly called "Uncle Jimmy" and James Harvey Kemper, often called "Uncle Harvey". "Uncle Harvey" was known as the "Marrying Preacher". He was the first preacher east of the Missouri-Kansas line and married many from Kansas. He married many of the earlier settlers of Washington Township. At one time he married a "runaway" or eloping couple, on "horseback". Their folks were so close behind them they had no time to dismount. It was necessary to have a license then in Kansas but not in

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Missouri.

The Berea Christian Church located about one-half mile northeast of Union Point Schoolhouse is the pioneer church of this faith in the township. The site was deeded to the church by William (Uncle Buck) and Matilda Muir in January 1847. This location doubtless was largely due to the influence of Jefferson Johnson, who had entered a body of land near by and had established a school of higher learning on his property a few years before. The log church (it was a log house) seems to have been used for nearly ten years when the church body changed to its present site in 1856, and adopted the name of Bethlehem Christian Church. This old log church was one-half mile north of Union Point School.

The complete dissolution of Berea seems to have resulted from this change and from its successor radiated four other organizations of like faith in surrounding communities.

The north group containing such familiar names as Flanagan, Sechrest, Davenport, Kritzer, joined to form The Raytown Christian Church. The west group Lipscombs, Gill, Kirby, Ripeto, Wells, Robinson, Wallingford, Gillham, Todd, went to Belton. The east group, Hickman, Whitsett, Noland, went to Lee's Summit.

The committee felt a bit hesitant about discussing the home church here after the preparation and execution of a splendid program recently given on its One Hundredth Anniversary. Too much praise cannot be given it for the outstanding service it has rendered this community in the years past. The membership personnel has even been of the highest and most honored citizens of the community.

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Early Schools in Washington Township

Most of the early settlers in Washington Township and in the Hickman Mills neighborhood lived several miles apart and free public schools were at first impossible. The people coming from the east did not know, nor were they interested in free schools - they thought one had to pay for what he got. Consequently, there was a system of private primary schools, organized in small areas. These private schools were supported by individuals who were able to pay for them.

This system came to Missouri with our pioneer settlers from Virginia, the Carolinas, Kentucky and Tennessee.

Often a governess or tutor was employed by a pioneer to teach the small children of his family. Sometimes a small cabin school was built on the premises. I know of a tiny one room schoolhouse still standing in this county, where a governess taught the little ones.

A need for higher education was felt at this time, so academies were established and were located in more populous centers. There were at one time seventeen academies in Jackson County. Almost every small town had one. They really held back the establishment of the public school system. There were so many small private schools in the town of Independence there was no public system until in the sixties.

Another popular early school system was the Subscription School. Small groups of citizens with large families formed themselves into an association for the purpose of educating their children. They elected a trustee and he hired a teacher and found a place or room for the

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sessions of schools. The teacher was paid about one dollar or one and one-half dollars a month for each scholar, as they were called. The teacher boarded around with the patrons of the school, usually staying a week at each home.

The Subscription School lasted three or four months in the winter, as the big boys had to work late in the fall and early in the spring. They often had a spring term of two or three months for the girls and smaller boys.

I am pretty sure several of those here tonight attended a Subscription School in their youth.

Missouri became a state in 1821 and as early as 1825 the legislature, impressed with the importance of a general system of education, passed a bill establishing a system of public schools for the state.

Many men of fine ability and liberal education who were advocates of private schools and colleges were slow to grasp the importance of public education. Some objected to paying school taxes when they were paying individually for the education of their children.

Not until 1839 was any tax money from the state treasury spent for education. In 1842 there were only six free public schools in the county. From that date slowly, but surely, public schools began to increase in the county. The growth was retarded in the cities and in localities where the best academies and private schools flourished - which they did long after the War Between The States.

It is interesting to note that the first State Superintendent of Schools insisted on a total abandonment of loud studying (blab schools)

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or swinging and singing processes in getting their lessons.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY

No early school of our county was of more interest and importance to this township and this community than Highland Academy, which was among the very first, if not the first, private school of higher learning in the county. This was near White Oak Creek, about 6½ miles northeast of Hickman Mills.

In 1845 this school was organized in Township 48, Range 33, by Mr. Jefferson H. Johnson from Hinds County, Mississippi. Mr. Johnson had acquired a tract of land here and being devoted to the cause of education and realizing the necessity of suitable accommodations, he, on his own land and at his own expense, erected a building the next year. There was a boarding school department headed by Mr. Johnson. Pupils came not only from the locality but from other counties and several states north as well. While there were a few primary classes yet it was chiefly a school of higher education, where higher branches of English, as well as Latin and Greek, were taught. The first two principals proved unsatisfactory, but the third, Mr. Joseph Bledsoe, was very successful and popular; at his resignation, Professor J. H. Youley, who presided over the institution until 1849. Under his able management the attendance grew from forty to seventy or eighty. In this school were educated young men who became the most useful citizens of their communities and states. Among them from this county were: J. T. Belt, J. L. Winchester, Hon. S. C. Ragan, N. L. Simpson, H. Clay, James Cogswell, Charles Cowherd, Sam Rice, Will Rice, G. Parr.

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About the time Prof. Youley resigned, Mr. Johnson's health failed and he soon died, and the school was not reopened.

The people of the neighborhood, having enjoyed the blessings of a good school and its inspirations, got busy and the Union Point School was the result.

The Highland Academy and Johnson residence and other buildings were burned by Kansas Soldiers.

There was a log school 1/4 mile west of the present Union Point School on the north side of Bannister Road. We cannot learn who built it as it was a Subscription School, but we do know Captain S. C. Ragan taught there after the Highland Academy.

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There were only two fights, or, as reported by federal officers at Ft. Leavenworth, skirmishes, in Washington Township.

The first was at the David Tate House. This house was one-half mile east and one-fourth mile south of Red Bridge.

The circumstances, as given by the official report and from those present, are this: On the 21st of March, 1862, Quantrell with some sixty men spent the night at the Noland farm near Independence. On the morning of March 22, Quantrell and his men started toward Kansas City at the Old Bridge over the Big Blue on the Independence and Westport Road (now about 27th Street. The old piers are still standing just north of No. 40 Highway). They encountered the federal pickets where they killed eleven and crossed and proceeded on south and west of Kansas City. Quantrell and his men, getting dinner at Alexander Majors near 72nd and Vine Streets now, then went to New Santa Fe about four o'clock in the afternoon, staying here until night came on. Some woman at New Santa Fe, either heard or suspicioned they would spend the night at the Tate home, so she rode to Kansas City and notified the federal officers. In the meantime, some thirty-five of Quantrell's men had gone to the Wyatt home, southwest of Grandview and Quantrell and the remainder of his men, twenty-two I have been told, went to the Tate house. This was a two-story log house with a boarded "lean to" on one end.

On receiving this word Major Pomeroy, in command with Major Banzhof, Colonel Robert Mitchell, Captain Amaziah Moore and Lieutenant Elias Stoner, with two companies of soldiers, started out to capture

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Quantrell. It was a very dark rainy night and Quantrell had failed to put out pickets so Major Pomeroy and his men surrounded the house, having captured all their horses, and called for Quantrell's surrender. Upon refusal the shooting commenced. Shortly Quantrell called for a parley. He asked for the Tate family to be let out of range of the house and shooting and while they were leaving Quantrell told his men they were in a very tight situation and if any of them wanted to take a chance and surrender to do so. On the day before on March 21, two boys, brothers, named Rollens from Grain Valley, had joined Quantrell and concluded to surrender. The shooting was resumed with little effect as the logs were heavy and no could be seen inside. In some way Major Pomeroy got a wagon loaded with hay against the house and got it fired. In the light from this fire Major Pomeroy was seen standing in a gate to the yard. Quantrell called for a shot gun and fired through a window killing Major Pomeroy. In the excitement Pomeroy's men ran to the front of the house where he was shot. Quantrell's men broke out through the boarded "lean to" and all escaped in the darkness and soon got to the brush. The house was all burned and the site was later built on and was known as the Ben Hayslett Farm.

The morning after the fight Mr. U. R. (Rial) Holmes, then a young man, went to the Tate place and found only two dead men. These were the two Rollens brothers who had surrendered and were later killed. No one knew how many federal soldiers were killed as they were taken away but it is known there were several. Mr. Holmes buried the Rollens brothers and they were later removed by relatives.

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BATTLE OF WHITE OAK

The Battle of Lone Jack was August 16, 1862, immediately after Colonel Upton Hayes moved his command to camp on White Oak Creek some seven miles north and east of Hickman Mills, about one-half mile northeast of the present Military Club. This camp was on White Oak Creek along an open flat bottom land bordered by a timbered rocky bluff on the west and Colonel Hayes camped here to gather recruits for Price's Army. Colonel Hayes had, as my father told me, about one hundred sixty men. On August 18th, the federal forces in Kansas City sent out two troops of cavalry under command of Jennison and Pennock to capture or run Colonel Hayes out of the county. Shortly afternoon Jennison was about where Besonia Church is now. He then sent one-half of his men east to come up White Oak Creek and the other part to strike Hayes in the rear. Colonel Hayes had pickets out and was aware of Jennison's approach. Dick Estes (whom some of you will remember) was a picket on the east on the White Oak Creek. During the shooting and capture of Estes, Hayes got his men in the high bluffs where they had the best of protection along one-fourth mile or more. Jennison dismounted his men and changed them across this open bottom. Hayes' men were armed with everything from "pepper box" pistols to corn knives, some squirrel rifles, but mostly with shot guns which, loaded with buckshot, made very effective weapons. After two or three charges across this bottom and failing to get to Hayes' men, Jennison withdrew, leaving seven or eight dead on the

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ground which Colonel Hayes' men put in a small ditch or wash and covered with dirt. The rains soon uncovered them. Jennison took his wounded to Zion Flannery's home, about a mile southwest where those unable to be taken to Kansas City were left, several dying here, and were buried in the yard. There was only one of Hayes' men killed and one wounded. Wash Wells, father of Bob Wells, who some of you knew, was killed and later buried about two hundred feet south of Bannister Road and one hundred feet east of 71 By-Pass in the Unity Farm Peach Orchard. Billy Jones was wounded, recovered and lived a long time on what is now Unity Farm. Colonel Hayes captured one federal soldier named Ship. Jennison captured one confederate soldier, Dick Estes. His saddle blankets and clothes had twenty-six bullet holes shot in them but he was uninjured.

The day after the fight George Kemper, who was in the fight, went to Kansas City and arranged an exchange of the two prisoners with the federal officers. The next day he took the Soldier Ship to Kansas City and brought Estes back.

Colonel Hayes then went south to join Price and was killed by a federal picket in a road near where Drexel, Missouri now is. My father was on a horse beside him when Colonel Hayes was shot from his horse. Colonel Hayes was buried in the Confederate Cemetery at 72nd and Troost Avenue. Later the Confederates were removed to Forest Hill Cemetery, not far from where they were first buried.

This recalls the killing of Harry Younger, father of Cole Younger. Mr. Younger, then living in Harrisonville, Cass County,

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had sold stock in Kansas City and it was known to the federal soldiers stationed in Kansas City he had several thousand dollars with him. In early afternoon he started home driving two good fast horses to a buckboard. Some way he learned he was followed by some of these soldiers and he stopped at the Mockbee home, now about 81st and Holmes Street, and they tried to have him stay there, but he thought he could out-travel them and hurried on. In a few minutes Mockbee saw (I think Wm. Mockbee told me) seven soldiers riding very fast after Mr. Younger. In a short time they were seen hurrying back toward Kansas City. The Mockbees, thinking the soldiers had caught Mr. Younger, went along the road and about one-half mile found him, at about 82nd and Vine Streets on the old Harrisonville Road, dead. Part of his money had been taken but they had not found a money belt he had under his clothing. Doubtless, because of the shooting, they were afraid to search long as there were Quantrell men in the neighborhood. The soldiers only found a small part of his money.

Soon afterward Cole Younger and two friends went in Kansas City saloons and at 5th and Main Streets overheard some of the soldiers bragging of their killing and robbery. At a given signal Cole and his friends killed five of them and made their escape from the city. Cole later killed the other two soldiers. This killing of his father was one of the several deeds which caused the Youngers to join "Quantrell" and become such famous guerillas. The Mockbee family still has some of the articles Mr. Younger had about him when he was killed.

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There was a near battle at Blue Ridge and Bannister Road. Quantrell had ordered supper for his men at the Kemper Farm. While it was being prepared, Jennison and his men rode up and said "this looks like a 'Bushwhacker' supper for us". Then Quantrell men appeared on the east and Jennison retired one-fourth mile west along the ridge and formed a line for battle followed by Quantrell. About this time Captain Todd (of Quantrell's command) came up from the west toward Holmes Park, putting Jennison between them. Jennison then started for Kansas City on the run without firing a shot. George Kemper often said he found guns, blankets, overcoats and many other things, even horses with saddles on. The federals threw away as they went through the brush and timber of what is now Hill Crest Golf Club and Swope Park. Quantrell was so close after them, I have heard my grandfather, James Harvey Kemper, say he saw eleven houses burning at one time. Jennison burned at this time one-half mile of rail fence, eight hundred bushels of wheat, one tenant house and started a fire to the Kemper home. My grandfather was a Mason and when the officer rode up he made some Masonic sign. The officer looked at him a little while and ordered the fire out and said "leave here and never bother this place again".

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